

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT:SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AFFORDED PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS

REFERENCE: SANTIAGO'S 6380

1. INCLUDED IN THE SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR SANTIAGO IS A REQUEST FOR TWO ADDITIONAL MARINE SECURITY GUARDS, ONE FOR THE CONSULAR ENTRANCE AND ONE FOR THE USAID ENTRANCE.

2. THE CONSULATE BUILDING - THE TELEGRAM INDICATES THAT THERE ARE TWO WELL TRAINED AND HEAVILY ARMED CARABINEROS AT THE GATE TO THE COMPOUND. TWO ARMED CONTRACT GUARDS ARE STATIONED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CONSULATE. IN ADDITION THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT A MARINE GUARD BE ASSIGNED TO THE CONSULATE ALSO DURING WORKING HOURS. THIS APPEARS SUPERFLUOUS. IS THE MARINE REALLY NEEDED?

3. USAID OFFICES - THE MARINE POST RECOMMENDED FOR THE ENTRANCE TO THE AID OFFICE AGAIN SEEMS TO BE A DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. IF THE FSLE GUARD IS RELIABLE AND WELL
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TRAINED, WHY IS THE MARINE ALSO NEEDED. THE OPINION THAT

THE MARINE MIGHT BE MORE RELIABLE IN AN EMERGENCY IS
ACCEPTED BUT IT APPEARS THAT THE MARINE WOULD BE JUST AS
VULNERABLE TO ONE ENTERING OFF THE TENTH FLOOR ELEVATOR
AS THE FSLE GUARD.

4. THE IMPORTANT POINT IN ACCESSING ACCESS CONTROLS AT
THE CONSULATE IS TO INSURE PROPER PRESCREENING OF VISITORS
AT A POINT BEFORE ENTRANCE TO THE ACTUAL LOBBY OR RECEPTION
AREA. THIS SCREENING BEST DONE BY LOCAL CONTRACT
GUARDS. RECEPTIONIST CAN THEN DETERMINE NATURE OF
BUSINESS AND PERSON TO BE SEEN. PRESCREENING IN MANY
INSTANCES CONSISTS OF CHECK OF PACKAGES AND BRIEFCASES
AND EVEN OF PHYSICAL SEARCH.

5. WITH THIS IN MIND AND PRESENT EMPLOYMENT OF COMPETENT
LOCAL OR CONTRACT GUARDS, QUESTION NECESSITY OF MARINE
GUARD ALSO AT CONSULATE AND AID OFFICE. ADVISE. KISSINGER

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